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NEWS -- Office of Supervisor Don Knabe

For Immediate Release:

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS RECOGNIZED FOR LOS ANGELES COUNTY DRAINAGE AREA PROJECT

LOS ANGELES (July 16) -- Los Angeles County Supervisor Don Knabe announced that the County Department of Public Works has received the ***Project of the Year*** award from the American Public Works Association (APWA) for completion of the Los Angeles County Drainage Area (LACDA) Project. Public Works shares the award with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The project was recognized in the category of "Disaster or Emergency Construction/Repair More Than \$10 Million."

The LACDA Project, which involved the Los Angeles River and Rio Hondo Channel, raised the height of 21 miles of existing levees, modified 24 bridges, improved recreational trails, and installed landscaping and trail rest stops. The primary objective was to increase flood protection for a half million residents. The completion of the project was celebrated in February of this year.

The APWA noted the project's innovative engineering, effective project management, sustained coordination between agencies, considerable public outreach, and exceptional safety record. The multi-year, multi-phase project was completed five years ahead of schedule and forty percent under budget, saving \$150 million. During construction, flood control functions were maintained, and vehicular, railroad, and utility bridges remained operable.

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